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INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Myjava National Enterprise in Slovakia

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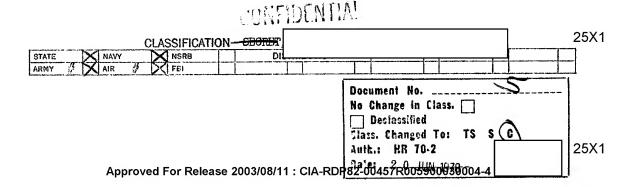
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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

There is as yet no name fixed for this machine works located at Lyjava (P49/T26). It was up to 1945 the firm of Taus with headquarters in Bratislava (P49/X99), and then it became the Hyjava plant of the Povazske strojarne (Vah River Machine Works).* Its new name will very probably contain the words Armatury and liyjava. **

- 2. As long as the enterprise belonged to the ammunition factory national enterprise at Povazska Bystrica (Q50/071) which formerly manufactured refrigerators, Myjava was constantly at odds with its main plant. The motivation was apparently dissatisfaction with its subordinate position. However, because of its special kind of production, it was able to secure independence as a national enterprise in 1949 without any appreciable difficulty. The Myjava director is Samalik, a Communist of long standing, who is currently in disfavor with the Party *** His colleagues were Ing. Sedlacek, a Communist, and Ing. Mirko Freund, who was imprisoned in 1949 for contacting foreign agents.
- 3. Hyjava has no branch plant as yet and has been enlarged as much as it can be; it grow from 1500 employees in 1945 to 3200 in 1949. A branch factory is to be established, however, and it is planned to transfer the production of screws to the enterprise built at Kremnica (049/055) by the Pilana Woodworking machinery national enterprise. The Hinistry of National Defense wants the factory producing screws to be located as far to the east as possible. Formerly there were three factories in Bohemia which were subordinate to Llyjava, but llyjava was relieved of their administration as a result of the 1949 reorganization.
- 4. The buildings of the Myjava plant, which employs 3200 persons at present, are closely crowled together. About half of them are one-story structures and about half are two- and three-story buildings, and they are of brick built on iron, or in a few cases, wooden framework. They are supplied with skylights. The plant buildings, which were constructed between 1933 and 1939, are in good shape. Because of the hilly terrain on which the plant stands, the buildings stand on varying levels differing as much as 8 meters. Near by are the employees' living quarters, which are factory property.



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- 5. The equipment, all of which can be replaced from Czech production if necessary, consists of automatic lathes (Skoda, Index Schuette), multiple lathes, drills, thread cutting machines and a great number of automatic machines producing tire valves, screws, cotter pins, concave rivets, etc. The foundry is provided with about 25 Polak die-casting presses for pressure-casting brass and aluminum. The tool shop is able to produce all forging dies and moids for pressure casting. The recently built foundry is larger than the plant requires and is equipped with good machines for core production and with machines for forming complicated molds for casting fixtures. The plant also has a large polishing room and galvanizing shops for chrome-plating and mickel-plating the fixtures. Although the tire valve parts are manufactured on automatic machines, 10,000 valves per day must be assembled by hand. Therefore, Ing. Smrock in Prague is attempting to design a machine to mechanize this part of the production.
- 6. The production program involves bathroom and kitchen plumbing fixtures, screws and other things which can be lathe processed, and the production of automobile and bicycle tire valves. Myjava exports the fixtures and screws to Holland, Sweden, -ustria and the Balkans, and it supplies 80 percent of the home consumption, but screw delivery terms range up to three years.
- 7. Uyjava is sound technologically and organizationally, but it is in very bad shape in so far as designing is concerned and is, therefore, not in a position to compete seriously with foreign industry. Hany export orders have been returned or cancelled because of poor designing caused by a lack of designers. Imperfect fixtures have caused immense losses; 80 percent of the radiator valves are defective. The plant also desperately needs electrolytic polishing equipment to replace the laborious manual polishing method, but this proplem is one to be found throughout the CSR. The Kovofinis National Enterprise in Prague, under Ing. Kopec, is attempting to find a solution to the problem. Lyjava has no military importance.

25X1	formerly part of the Vah River Machine Works.	25X1			
25X1	Comment: The so-called "Hyjava Movement", a Communist propaganda move to create greater efficiency among the young workers, started at this plant. However, an illegal "Myjava Movement", which has led to the murder of a leading Communist in the summer of 1949, is also gaining momentum. This plant may form a core of resistance to the current Communist regime.				

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Comment: Samalik transferred one-half million Kcs of his personal, secret account into the new money at the time of the 1945 currency reform by paying his outstanding bills in the old currency Comment: and 25X1 apparently collecting from his debtors in the new money. However, the party court judged him net guilty of a crime and released him. Even before February 1948 there were different standards for old and new members, as well as for non-members, and when the party court had decided even a guilty man was innocent, the official courts did not dare to countermand their findings.